Funds for Gadhuli-Santalpur road in Gujarat

1460. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds for the construction/improvement of Gadhuli-Santalpur road in Gujarat has been considered/approved by the Central Government;

(b) if so, by when the sanctioned amount will be released to Gujarat;

(c) if not, the present status; and

(d) the time by when the proposal of Gujarat Government will be finally considered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d) A proposal for the construction / improvement of the Gadhuli-Santalpur road in Gujarat has been received. The technical scrutiny of the proposal has been done. The matter is under consideration with other strategic border roads.

Revamping procedure for grant of arms license

1461. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering in consultation with State Governments, revamping the existing procedure fair grant of arms licenses to prevent sale of arms licenses to criminals and terrorists;

(b) if so, the progress made in the matter so far; and

(c) the steps Government has taken/proposes to take to standardize this procedure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) As per the existing standard procedure for issue of arms licences, police verification of antecedents of the applicant is a pre-requisite before the grant of arms license is considered. Police verification is done to ensure that arms licences are not granted to undesirable elements.

Unmanned aerial surveillance to track naxalites

1462. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to acquire unmanned aerial surveillance equipment to track naxalites in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how much time it will take to acquire and what will be the role of the State Government in this operation?